DAMOP BICYCLE EXCURSION

Wisconsin led in the Rail to Trail conversion starting in the 1960s. The state now enjoys ~1000 miles of State Park Trails managed by the Dept. of Natural Resources. DAMOP participants and guests are invited on a bicycle excursion organized by Thad Walker and Jim Lawler.

Directions & Costs: The excursion will depart from Machinery Row Bicycles (0.4 mi directly east of Monona Terrace on the bike path) on Friday June 6, at 2 pm. Bike rental is $20 plus $4 for a one day trail pass. To sign up, send an email to: quanthmm@gmail.com.

What to Bring:

Bring at least 1 liter of bottled water (2 liters if it is hot) and whatever snacks you like. We will pass through communities where you can refill your water bottle and/or purchase bottled water and snacks. Helmets are recommended but not required in Wisconsin. There is no vehicle traffic on the trails and a modest number of road crossings.

Trail Description:

From Machinery Row Bicycles, you will be on the Capital City Trail. After passing Monona Terrace, cross John Nolen Drive at Lake Shore Drive to get to the Southwest Commuter Trail. You will then stay on this for about 6 miles until it reaches the Badger State Trail. See the attached map for details.

The Badger State Trail begins at the edge of Madison and continues for about 40 miles to the Illinois border where it connects to the Jane Addams Trail. The trail is paved for the first 10 miles and then becomes crushed limestone. It is suitable for all kinds of tires including narrow road bike tires. A map of the whole trail is attached.

Duration of Ride:

You may turn around anytime. We recommend that you start back to Madison before you are fatigued so that you can enjoy the return ride. A suggested ride is to go to Belleville, (about 20 miles), stop for food/refreshments, and then return to Madison for a nice 40 mile round trip. A few miles south of Belleville is a wonderful train tunnel that you can walk your bike through with help from your cell phone flashlight. Monticello is about 60 miles round trip; Monroe is about 70 miles round trip. Sunset is at 8:30 pm—be sure to turn around in time to get back before dark!

Places to stop, heading south from Madison:

Bennett’s is a Bar/Grill on the right just south of the U-Haul facility on the Commuter Trail near the edge of Madison.

The Pauli Pub and Grill is ½ mile west of the intersection of Sun Valley Parkway and the trail.

Dot’s Tavern in Basco is near the intersection of Henry Rd with the trail, about 9 miles south of Madison. It is about one block west of the trail.

Belleville has lots of eating/drinking options: Bellville Ale House, Nest’s Tavern, Corner Café, J&M Bar & Grill and Dam Bar & Grill. There is a water fountain in the northwest corner of the park in the center of town. For best results, ask a local.

Monticello also has several bars and restaurants; head west about ½ mile at the Coates Ave/Hwy C crossing of the trail.

Another 11 miles south of Monticello is the town of Monroe, again with places to eat and drink.
Directions from Machinery Row Bicycles to Badger State Trail

1. Head south on Capital City Trail toward Capital City Trail

   ▲ Walk your bicycle
   69 ft

2. Turn right to stay on Capital City Trail

   ▲
   0.8 mi

3. Turn right toward Southwest Commuter Path

   ▼
   0.2 mi

4. Slight left toward Southwest Commuter Path

   ▼
   0.1 mi

Use caution - may involve errors or sections not suited for bicycling

Bicycle 6.8 miles, 39 min

https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Machinery+Row+Bicycles,+601+Williamson+St,+Madison,+WI+53703/Badger+State+Trail+601+Williamson+St,+Madison,+WI+53703/69+ft/0.8+mi/0.2+mi/0.1+mi/667767588593241
5. Turn right onto Southwest Commuter Path

6. Turn left to stay on Southwest Commuter Path

7. Turn right to stay on Southwest Commuter Path

8. Continue straight to stay on Southwest Commuter Path

9. Slight left to stay on Southwest Commuter Path

10. Head southwest on Southwest Commuter Path toward Glenway St

11. Slight left to stay on Southwest Commuter Path

12. Slight left onto Badger State Trail

---

SW Commuter Path
Madison, WI

---

https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Machinery+Row+Bicycles,+601+Will...05eb7f:0x918404bf7446520d!2m2!1d-89.4358429!2d43.056543!1m0!3e1